



U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., Chairman

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News Advisory

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Telecom and Antitrust Task Force Hearing Tuesday on Network Neutrality

What: Oversight Hearing entitled, "Network Neutrality: Innovation, Competition and Nondiscriminatory Access"
Who: Telecom and Antitrust Task Force – Rep. F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr. (R-Wis.), Chairman
When: 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 25, 2006
Where: 2141 Rayburn Building

THIS HEARING IS EXPECTED TO EXPLORE...

- ⇒ What is "net neutrality?"
- ⇒ Does net neutrality promote innovation and competition?
- ⇒ Can broadband service providers "control" access to the Internet?
- ⇒ Have broadband providers engaged in illegal or discriminatory conduct in violation of net neutrality principles?
- ⇒ How have recent legal and regulatory developments affected competition for broadband services?
- ⇒ How can broadband providers abuse their market power to limit access to Internet content? Do they have an economic incentive to do so?
- ⇒ How would access-tiering affect the competitive landscape of the telecommunications market or the open architecture of the Internet?
- ⇒ How does recent consolidation in the telecommunications marketplace affect broadband access?
- ⇒ Can a network provider effectively manage network access or should a statutory definition of network neutrality be adopted by Congress? What restrictions, if any, should be placed on the network provider to ensure a competitive marketplace?
- ⇒ What current authority exists to protect net neutrality?
- ⇒ Would legislative proposals being considered by Congress promote or undermine net neutrality?
- ⇒ What is the role of antitrust in preventing Internet "discrimination"?

WITNESSES: Mr. Paul Misener, Vice President of Global Public Policy, Amazon.com; Mr. Earl W. Comstock, President and CEO, COMPTel; Mr. Walter B. McCormick, President and CEO, United States Telecom Association; and Mr. Timothy Wu, Professor of Law, Columbia Law School.

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